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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Rumania/Bulgaria

SUBJECT Construction of Bridge Between Giurgiu and Ruse on the Danube

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. "On 3 May 54, the bridge between Giurgiu and Ruse on the Danube was almost finished. All the concrete pylons and the upper iron work are finished. Work is still being done between the two pylons in the middle of the river. This section will resemble the Tower Bridge of London, and will open. The bridge will have two decks: On the lower deck the rails for trains are already laid, and trains are able to pass; the second deck, which is higher than any other bridge at Budapest or Vienna, will be for other vehicles. Both decks are made of iron.
2. "Because of the work on the opening, vessels now pass between the first and second and the second and third pylons.
3. "Most of the workers are Rumanian and are better paid than the other workers.
4. "It is probable that the bridge will be inaugurated officially and opened to traffic during the summer (1954).
5.
6. "Another traveler on the Danube who, on the evening of 14 May 54, passed through the Giurgiu-Ruse region, also reports that the bridge from the RPR (Rumania) to Bulgaria is finished but has not yet been opened to traffic. There were mistakes made in the construction of two pylons on the Bulgarian side of the bridge with the result that there has been some shifting. This must be corrected before the bridge can be used. The pilot of the Danube boats coming from Turnu-Severin and the Portes de Fer (Iron Gates) says that it has not been determined whether the shifting was caused by sabotage or the nature of the terrain.

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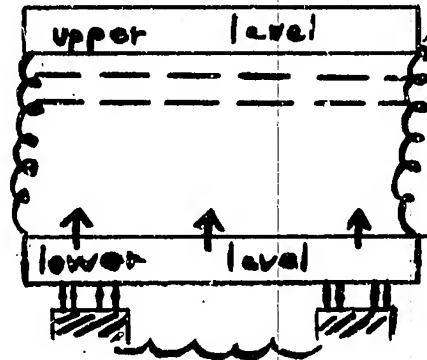
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7. [redacted] the bridge is ready. It consists of two levels, the lower level for trains, the upper asphalt level for automobiles and other traffic. The lighting equipment has also been completed and is in operation.

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8. [redacted] the opening mechanism between the two middle pylons has not yet been finished. The lower level rises electrically about four or five meters like an elevator until it almost reaches the upper level.

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9. [redacted]

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